



**Health Services**  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

June 5, 2007

**Los Angeles County  
Board of Supervisors**

**Gloria Molina**  
First District

**Yvonne B. Burke**  
Second District

**Zev Yaroslavsky**  
Third District

**Don Knabe**  
Fourth District

**Michael D. Antonovich**  
Fifth District

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVAL OF SOLE SOURCE AGREEMENT FOR ORGAN  
TRANSPLANT PATIENT TESTING SERVICES WITH THE  
REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,  
LOS ANGELES (UCLA) IMMUNOGENETICS CENTER  
(All Districts) (3 Votes)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

**Bruce A. Chernof, MD**  
Director and Chief Medical Officer

**John R. Cochran III**  
Chief Deputy Director

**Robert G. Splawn, MD**  
Senior Medical Director

Approve and instruct the Director of Health Services, or his designee, to sign a sole source organ transplant testing services agreement, substantially similar to Exhibit I, with the Regents of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Immunogenetics Center (Center), to provide organ transplant patient testing (i.e., medical laboratory services) to County patients undergoing kidney transplants at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center's renal transplant unit, effective July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2012, at an estimated annual cost of \$335,752.

313 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 912  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Tel: (213) 240-8101  
Fax: (213) 481-0503

*To improve health  
through leadership,  
service and education.*

**PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Board approval of the recommended sole source agreement will allow Harbor-UCLA Medical Center's renal transplant unit to obtain needed organ transplant patient testing services as required for the performance of kidney transplants. Kidney transplants are essential to County patients when acute and peritoneal dialysis, or other means of removing toxic or excessive waste products from a patient's blood, are not feasible alternatives.

**FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:**

The total estimated annual cost for organ transplant patient testing services is \$335,752, effective July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2012. The rates are based on Medicare and can be adjusted at the end of each contract year if Medicare rates for these services change.

Funding is included in the Department of Health Services' (DHS) Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2007-08, and will be requested in future fiscal years.



**www.ladhs.org**

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

On January 15, 2002, the Board authorized the County's Internal Services Department's purchasing agent to issue a Purchase Order in the amount of \$300,000 to allow DHS to obtain organ transplant patient testing services for County patients at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center.

On June 18, 2002, the Board approved a sole source Agreement with the UCLA Immunogenetics Center (Center) for the period effective July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2007.

The Center is certified by the American Society for Histocompatibility and authorized for use by the United Network of Organ Sharing (UNOS), which is a mandate with the Health Resources and Services Administration of the United States Department of Health and Human Services for facilities performing kidney transplants. The Center has had a 39-year relationship with Harbor-UCLA Medical Center and is the only County-operated facility with a UNOS approved organ transplant service.

The Center provides same-day Cyclosporin A drug levels (before the end of the day). This turnaround time is critical in preventing the rejection of the transplanted organ. The Center maintains files on critical historical and current serum samples for Harbor-UCLA patients who are awaiting transplantation.

Attachment A provides additional information.

County Counsel has approved Exhibit I as to use and form.

CONTRACTING PROCESS:

On October 18, 2000, DHS released a Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking proposals from qualified medical laboratory services providers to provide laboratory testing in all or any one or more of the following testing categories: general laboratory, cytogenetic, cytology and histopathology, special infant immune response endocrinology, immunology, microbiology and virology, and tissue typing.

On January 8, 2001, the DHS received RFP proposal responses from eight laboratory services providers for various categories. On June 19, 2001 the Board approved new medical laboratory services agreements with five labs: Focus, Pathnet, Quest, Specialty, and USC.

During the RFP evaluation process, the Center was determined unqualified because of its inability to receive testing input and provide test results by computer to computer interface which was a minimum criteria for all proposers. Quest and Specialty were recommended to perform tissue typing tests under the new agreements.

In the months following, DHS determined that both Quest and Specialty were unable to provide a number of specialized tissue typing tests, and/or were unable to perform such tests at the level required by patients undergoing kidney transplants at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center's renal transplant unit. As a member of UNOS, Harbor-UCLA Medical Center is required under that organization's by-laws to use a laboratory that meets all UNOS standards for histocompatibility testing. Neither Quest nor Specialty met those standards, and they did not wish to undergo the process required for them to become compliant.

Since kidney transplant procedures must proceed without delay, especially when there is an available organ and patient match, Harbor-UCLA Medical Center immediately began searching for an available tissue typing testing provider. Based on the need for a tissue typing testing laboratory specializing in providing testing for organ transplantation on a timely basis, the Center was selected as the sole provider of organ transplant patient testing services.

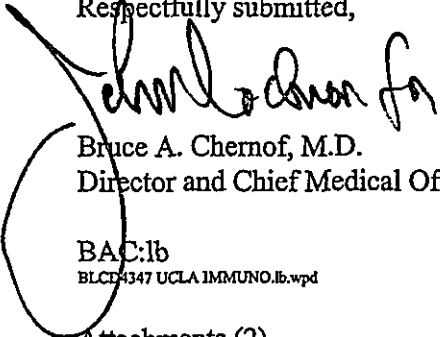
Sole source agreements are not advertised on the Los Angeles County Online Website as a business opportunity.

IMPACT ON CURRENT PROGRAM SERVICES (OR PROJECTS):

Organ transplant patient testing services will continue without interruption.

When approved, this Department requires three signed copies of the Board's action.

Respectfully submitted,



Bruce A. Chernof, M.D.  
Director and Chief Medical Officer

BAC:lb  
BLCD4347 UCLA IMMUNO.lb.wpd

Attachments (2)

c: Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

SUMMARY OF AGREEMENT

1. TYPE OF SERVICE:

Organ transplant patient testing services provides for support testing as required by the DHS' Harbor- UCLA Medical Center's renal transplant center in the performance of kidney transplants for County transplants eligible patients.

2. AGENCY ADDRESS AND CONTACT PERSON:

UCLA Immunogenetics Center  
Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine  
1000 Veteran Avenue  
P.O. Box 951652  
Los Angeles, California 90095-1652  
Attention: Elaine F. Reed, Ph.D.  
Laboratory Director  
Telephone/Facsimile(FAX) Number: (310) 794-4943/(310) 206-3216  
E-mail address: ereed@mednet.ucla.edu

3. TERM:

Effective July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2012.

4. FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

The total estimated annual cost for organ transplant patient testing services is \$335,752, effective July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2012.

Funding is included in the Department of Health Services' Proposed Budget for FY 2007-08, and will be requested in future fiscal years.

5. GEOGRAPHIC AREAS SERVED:

All Districts.

6. ACCOUNTABILITY FOR PROGRAM MONITORING AND EVALUATION:

Miguel Ortiz-Marroquin, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Harbor-UCLA Medical Center

7. APPROVALS:

Harbor-UCLA Medical Center:	Miguel Ortiz-Marroquin, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Contracts and Grants Division:	Cara O'Neill, Chief
County Counsel (approval as to form):	Sharon A Reichman, Principal Deputy County Counsel